VZCZCXRO3549
PP RUEHDBU
DE RUEHNT #1603 2540445
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 110445Z SEP 07
FM AMEMBASSY TASHKENT
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8436
INFO RUEHAH/AMEMBASSY ASHGABAT 3249
RUEHTA/AMEMBASSY ASTANA 9421
RUEHEK/AMEMBASSY BISHKEK 3863
RUEHDBU/AMEMBASSY DUSHANBE 3727

UNCLAS TASHKENT 001603

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE SIPDIS

DEPT FOR SCA/CEN

E.O. 12958: N/A TAGS: <u>ECON</u> <u>WB</u> <u>UZ</u>

SUBJECT: WORLD BANK MEETING: UZBEKS STILL THINKING

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED -- PLEASE PROTECT ACCORDINGLY.

(SBU) World Bank (WB) Country Director, Loup Brefort, told Econoff the Uzbeks will likely participate in the Bank's upcoming October meeting. However, Brefort believes the Uzbeks will base the extent and level of their participation on how negotiations proceed over the next few weeks on the WB's Interim Strategy Plan. If the Uzbeks do not take issue with the plan, then they will be more likely to send a high-level delegation, led by Minister of Finance (and Deputy PM) Rustam Azimov.